



4002-3111/TNT.bkp/377594

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U. S. application of: ) Before the Examiner  
Hai H. Trieu ) Alvin J. Stewart  
Serial No. 10/717,687 )  
Filing Date: November 20, 2003 )  
METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR )  
DELIVERING AN INTERVERTEBRAL )  
DISC IMPLANT ) February 22, 2006

### RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 22, 2005, please consider the following. Additionally, please provide any extensions of time which may be necessary and charge any additional fees which may be due or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313 on February 22, 2006.

Timothy N. Thomas  
Name of Registered Representative

  
Signature

February 22, 2006  
Date of Signature